

This booklet has been prepared by the League of Women Voters of Derry as a public service. Our purpose is to provide basic background information about Derry from an objective point of view.

The League is grateful to the officials and employees of the Town for their cooperation. We also wish to thank our members and contributors whose support made the printing of this booklet possible.

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# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. Membership in the League is open to all women citizens of voting age.

The members select certain governmental issues for concerted study and action at local, state and national levels. The League never supports or opposes any political party or any candidate.

Through its Voters Service, the League provides factual, nonpartisan information on candidates and ballot issues. It actively encourages registration and an informed vote.

Published by:

# The League of Women Voters of Derry

Cover — Hood Farm Printed by the Derry News Graphic Art by Nancy Gagnon

August 1967



Taylor Mill

The first settlers of Derry were Scottish Presbyterians, whose ancestors had emigrated in 1612 from Scotland to Ulster County in Ireland, where for more than one hundred years they had endured continual hostility and religious persecution. Their remarkable fortitude is exemplified by their survival of the seige of Londonderry (Ireland) in 1688-1689, through which they suffered incredible hardship, hunger, torture and loss of life.

In search of religious freedom, one hundred twenty families embarked, in 1718, for the New World. Because of their sect, they were refused an expected grant from the Massachusetts Bay Company. In October, 1719, they purchased a tract of land known as Nutfield from John Wheelwright, whose grandfather had bought it in 1629 from Indians.

The settlement retained the name of Nutfield until a charter, confirming their title, was received from King George in June, 1722. The name was then changed to Londonderry, and the settlement was incorporated as a township.

Under the leadership of their clergyman, Pastor MacGregor, they laid out their individual grants on either side of a small brook running westward into Beaver River. This location constituted what became known as the Double Range, east of what is now South Main Street. With the indispensable aid of John Goff, a professional trapper, guide and Indian hunter, they built temporary shelters, learned to trap and hunt, and cleared homesites and trails. Within two years, a Meeting House and a two-story home for the minister had been built.

Town government was set up with the election of a Town Moderator, Clerk and a seven man committee to manage public affairs. Town Meeting and Election Day became the most important event of the year. Though it was not always enforced, there was a fine imposed on those who did not exercise their right to vote.



The people were devout and industrious. There were mills in operation within two years of settlement. They planted flax, and the skillfulness of their weaving made Londonderry linen famous. They introduced the cultivation of the potato to the Colonies.

The men of Londonderry answered the call to arms in the War for Independence, joining the New Hampshire Volunteers. General John Stark, one of the prominent officers of the Revolutionary War, was born here in

Flax Wheel 1728.

Dr. Matthew Thornton came to Londonderry as a young man and became active in public affairs. He served as Moderator, as President of the Provincial Convention of New Hampshire, and in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. He was also appointed to represent the State in the Continental Congress and became a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The main concentration of dwellings continued to develop in East Derry until 1804 when the Turnpike from Concord to Boston was built. It gave rise to the development of the Lower Village, which became the place of considerable business and a center of traffic for surrounding towns.

In 1827 the town was divided. The north and west sector retained the name Londonderry; the eastern, first settled district, shortened its name to Derry. The railroad came in 1848. The line and depot were situated further west of the Turnpike which again moved the commercial center of the town to its present location.

From its beginning, Derry has grown with the support of numerous small businesses and industries. In 1870, Col. W. S. Pillsbury purchased existing but idle buildings in Derry Depot to expand his growing shoe and boot manufacturing business. For one hundred years, the shoe industry has remained the largest employer in Derry.

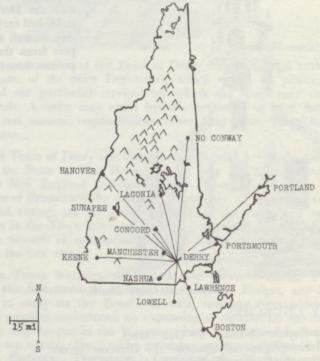
In May, 1960, the shoe industry suffered a severe setback with the disastrous Chelmsford Shoe fire, which leveled the factory and 11 buildings on South Avenue. The shoe factory was not rebuilt at the site of the fire, but through the efforts of various townspeople, a new company was formed, which provided employment for many of the jobless Chelmsford employees.

Poet Robert Frost and Astronaut Alan B. Shepard, Jr. are two of Derry's most famous residents in this century. Frost lived in Derry from 1900 to 1911 and taught at Pinkerton Academy. Shepard, America's first man in space, was born and raised in East Derry. In his honor, Derry is unofficially known as Spacetown, U.S.A.

# Derry 1967

Derry today is a diversified residential community with a rich historical heritage. It is located in western Rockingham County bounded by Londonderry on the west, Auburn and Chester on the north, Sandown, Hampstead and Atkinson on the east, and Salem and Windham on the south. Derry is intersected by three main traffic arteries, Interstate No. 93, Route No. 102 and Route No. 28.

Derry still maintains the characteristics of a small New England town, with its rolling hills, numerous lakes and streams, and picturesque countryside dotted with orchards and farms. Of particular interest is the 300 acre Hood Meadow and Farm located in the midst of the built-up areas of West Derry and Derry Village. In 1858, Harvey P. Hood purchased the homestead and farm, pictured on the booklet cover, marking the founding of the largest creamery in New England.



Derry is experiencing a period of rapid population growth, as are many other southern New Hampshire towns. The population has increased from the 1960 census report of 6,950 to an estimate of 9,500 in 1967. There are approximately 4,900 registered voters in Derry, of whom 2,949 voted in the 1964 Presidential election, and 2,080 voted in the last local election. The total assessed valuation of taxable property in 1966 was \$46,623,500.

Derry serves as the commercial center for the surrounding communities. There are three large shoe manufacturers and many varied, small businesses. Since 1963 Derry has had an active Chamber of Commerce. Also, recently formed is the Derry Industrial Development Corporation, a private corporation set up by civic-minded townspeople to raise money for the purchase of land for industrial use.

The annual Labor Day Festival, the Concert and Lecture Series of the Chamber of Commerce, and activities of numerous fraternal and civic organizations provide recreational and cultural activities for the area. Within convenient commuting distance are all of the educational, cultural and recreational facilities of the greater Boston area and the mountains of New Hampshire.



The Town is served by two local newspapers, the Derry News, published each Monday and Thursday, and the Derry Star, published each Thursday, as well as by papers from the metropolitan areas nearby.

East Derry Church

# DERRY CHURCHES

Calvary Baptist Church - 18 Oak Street
Central Congregational Church - 14 Crescent Street
First Church, Congregational - East Derry
First Baptist Church - 44 East Broadway
Church of the Nazarene - 72 West Broadway
Church of the Transfiguration (Episcopal) - 1 Hood Road
Saint Luke's Methodist Church - 63 East Broadway
Saint Thomas Aquinas Church (Roman Catholic) - 26 Crystal Avenue
Christian Science Church - Boyd Road

# Town Government



The government of the Town of Derry derives its legal authority from statutes of the State Legislature, which specify its powers and duties and the particular services for which the town may expend public funds. A town may enact by-laws pertinent to local matters, but may not assume responsibilities other than those permitted by state statutes.

The Town of Derry was created by a Special Act of the General Court of the State of New Hampshire on July 2, 1827. It functions under the New England tradition of open Town Meeting, the most direct form of democracy. At this annual assembly, all registered voters, present and voting, are the governing body of the town, and act on all Articles in the Town Warrant, including those requiring appropriations. The amount of appropriations voted is the major factor in determining the tax rate.

The Town Warrant, the agenda for Town Meeting, is prepared by the Selectmen. It includes the proposed Budget, any items necessary to carry on the Town's business, and any item which the Selectmen consider necessitates an expression of opinion by the voters. An Article may be put in the Warrant which is requested by petition of at least ten voters. (For Articles requiring an appropriation see page 13, Town Budgetary Procedures.) Copies of the Warrant must be posted two weeks before Town Meeting.

All the Town Offices are located in the Adams Memorial Building on West Broadway. The building is also utilized by the State Department of Employment Security, State Probation Department, District Court, the New Hampshire Department of Safety, and the Rockingham County Commissioners.

The salaries of all town officers and employees are determined at Town Meeting. There is no merit system in effect at this time. The Police, Fire and Highway Departments and office personnel are paid on a grade (job classification) - step (years of service) basis. No positions are filled under the Civil Service Commission jurisdiction.

#### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Derry is in Rockingham County; the County Seat is Exeter-Each town in the county pays its proportionate share of the operating cost of county government and services, which include the office of the sheriff, county iail, county home, registration of deeds and registration of probate. County government is administered by three County Commissioners, who are elected every two years. The county budget is voted by the County Convention which consists of all the Representatives to the General Court from each town in Rockingham County.

#### STATE GOVERNMENT.

New Hampshire government operates under the same general structure that exists nationally. That is, the legislative body, known as the General Court is composed of a Senate and a House of Representatives. The General Court acts in cooperation with the executive and the judiciary to carry on state functions.

Senatorial districts for the General Court are determined on the basis of population with each of the 24 districts selecting one senator. Representatives to the lower house are chosen from districts according to a population ratio. Derry now elects five representatives. The House of Representatives has 400 members, the constitutional limit, and the Senate has 24.

The executive branch is directed by the Governor, elected for a two-year term, who governs with the advice and consent of his Council. This Council must be consulted on most executive matters, and is composed of one councilor from each of five districts, who is elected by the people in that district for a two-year term. The judiciary branch was established by the Legislature.

The basic structure of the State government is in the Constitution. The New Hampshire Constitution prohibits graduated or progressive taxes and provides that no property can be taxed unless specifically declared taxable by the state legislature. Finances for governmental functioning are raised through two classes of taxes: those earmarked for special purposes, such as highway construction; and those which go into a general fund.

The general fund derives most of its revenue from the taxes on liquor, pari-mutuel betting and tobacco. Of the earmarked state taxes, the major ones are the gasoline tax, motor vehicle fees and road tolls which are used for highway construction, and the net revenue from the New Hampshire Sweepstakes, which is distributed to the towns for education.

# **ADMINISTRATION**

Administrative responsibility is concentrated with the Board of Selectmen, whose powers and duties are broad and varied. They have jurisdiction over and work closely with all departments and appoint many town officials. (See Chart pages 16-17).

There are three Selectmen who are elected at-large, on a non-partisan basis, as are most town officers. The term of office is three years, so that as one officer retires each year, he is replaced or reelected by the citizens annually in March. Each receives an annual salary of \$1,000. Regular meetings of the Board are held every Wednesday evening in the Selectmen's office and are open to the public.

#### THE SELECTMEN:

- accept Articles and have the Town Warrant printed and distributed;
- arrange for the annual Town Meeting;
- approve all bills and payrolls;
- act as purchasing agents for all Town Departments; (Most large purchases are put out for competitive bids; decision is at the discretion of the Board.)
- sign all Bonds and Notes authorized by the Town;
- accept town streets and have final authority in Highway Department matters;
- authorize the erection of public street lighting;
- assess property or delegate the duty to a property assessor and hear appeals concerning tax assessments;
- keep the plans of streets and lots;
- review the Town boundaries every seven years;
- make and maintain the list of jurors and are present when the Town Clerk makes the drawing;
- are custodians of all town property which is not in the care of another Board or Officer;
- issue permits to purchase, carry and sell concealed weapons;
- issue licenses for Beano, Sunday business, motor vehicle junk yards, shows and parades.

It is to the Selectmen, also, that Derry citizens appeal when they have requests for assistance, or wish information regarding some phase of town government.

#### TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk is elected annually and receives a salary of \$700 plus fees. In 1966, the fees totaled approximately \$4,800.

#### Duties of the Town Clerk include:

- Keeping records of all vital statistics and forwarding copies to the State;
- Recording results of all elections and primaries and all other matters considered at Town Meeting;
- Issuing and recording dog licenses;
- Issuing and recording marriage licenses;
- Receiving road taxes prior to automobile registration;
   No motor vehicle may be registered in the State of New Hampshire until a municipal registration permit has been obtained from the Town Clerk.
- Recording Uniform Commercial Code forms,

## TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector is elected for a term of one year at a salary of \$5,800 (1967). She keeps all records regarding tax warrants, tax sales and tax redemptions.

She is responsible for the collection of all taxes as assessed and ordered by the Selectmen:

- Property tax and assessment (see Finance p. 13);
- Poll Tax a two dollar poll tax is assessed on April 1 on every town inhabitant who is twenty-one to seventy years of age, except certain exemptions including war veterans;
- State Head Tax a five dollar Head Tax is assessed against all Town residents twenty-one to seventy years of age with some exemptions.

#### TAX ASSESSOR

The Tax Assessor is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and, at present, also serves as Building Inspector and Health Officer. He receives a salary of \$6,500 annually. In addition to assessing all taxable property, he determines appropriate changes in assessment as structures are built, improved or depreciated.

#### TREASURER

The Treasurer is elected for a term of one year and is paid a salary of \$500. He has custody of all local funds and pays out monies by a vote of the Selectmen.

The Treasurer and a majority of the Selectmen must sign all Town Notes. To pay current maintenance and operation expenses, the Treasurer may, with the approval of the Selectmen, under the vote of the Town, issue tax anticipation notes.

#### **MODERATOR**

The Town Moderator is elected at General Elections, biennially in November and receives a token salary of \$100. His assistant, whom he appoints, receives \$30.

The Moderator presides at the annual Town Meeting, and also at any special Town Meeting authorized by the Superior Court. He must be present at all general and primary elections to receive the ballots, to rule on questionable ballots and at the counting of the ballots. He appoints the Budget Committee, with the exception of those members who are automatically on the Committee by virtue of their office, and any committees specified in the Town Warrant.

#### SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Three Supervisors of the Checklist are elected at General Elections in November for a term of six years. They are paid a salary of \$75 each.

They provide for the registration of voters, issue and receive transfer cards from any other town or city within the State. The checklist (or list of registered voters) as corrected by the Supervisors, is kept in the Town Hall and must be publically posted prior to an election.

The Supervisors must be present and assist with the counting of the ballots at all elections.

# TOWN COUNSEL

The Town Counsel is appointed by the Board of Selectmen for an indefinite term and receives an annual retainer of \$500 plus fees. He acts as legal advisor to the Town and in Court cases represents the Town or any Board or Officer of the Town in the performance of his duties.

He is available for consultation by the various departments and officers of the Town, and may give opinions regarding the interpretation of the Town by-laws or State Statutes affecting the Town. He examines the Articles in the Warrant for proper wording.

#### **BUILDING INSPECTOR**

The Building Inspector is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and at present also serves as Property Assessor and Health Officer. He

receives a salary of \$6,500 a year (1967).

The Building Inspector is in charge of all building inspection which is substantially limited to new construction and to buildings which pose health or safety hazards. He issues building permits in compliance with the Zoning Regulations.

#### **AUDITORS**

Three Auditors are elected annually and each receives \$50 for his services. They examine the accounts of Selectmen, Town Clerk, Collector of Taxes, Treasurer, Clerk of Municipal Court and any other office handling Town funds at the close of the fiscal year and any other necessary times.

#### TRUSTEES OF THE CEMETERY

The Cemetery Trustees, three in number, are elected for a threeyear term and serve without compensation. They are responsible for the records and maintenance of Forest Hill Cemetery on Cemetery Road in East Derry.

#### TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

The Trustees of the Trust Funds oversee and invest all trust funds given to the Town of Derry, and they decide how the funds shall be invested. They must make an annual report of their activities to the Town, the Tax Commission, and the N.H. Attorney General.

There are three trustees who serve for three years each, and receive an annual total salary of \$325.

# TRUSTEES OF MAC GREGOR LIBRARY

There are six trustees of the MacGregor Library who serve without compensation. Two trustees are elected each year for three year terms. They hire the librarian and other employees, draw up the budget to be submitted to the Budget Committee and form basic library policies.

## TRUSTEES OF TAYLOR LIBRARY

There are five trustees of the Taylor Library who serve without compensation. One trustee is elected each year for a five year term. The Trustees hire the librarian and other employees, draw up the budget to be submitted to the Budget Committee and form basic library policies.

# FINANCE

The Board of Selectmen manage the financial affairs of the Town by majority rule. They must keep accurate records of all monies received, all accounts paid and all orders drawn by them and any other financial transactions of the Town.

All borrowing is governed by state statutes, Bond issues require a two-thirds vote of the Town Meeting. All other appropriations require a majority vote.

The Town debt limit is 3% of the last assessed valuation (1966 - \$46,623,500). The School debt limit is 5%. Money may be borrowed outside the debt limit in certain cases, such as sewerage treatment facilities, water projects, and temporary loans in anticipation of taxes.

The Selectmen are responsible for raising the funds necessary for the support of the Town and its services. It is their duty to assess all taxable property. The actual assessment of property is made by the Property Tax Assessor, with the approval of the Selectmen.

All property in the Town of Derry was re-assessed as of April, 1965, by the State Assessors office at 100% fair market value. Appeals for abatement of tax assessments are made to the Board of Selectmen.

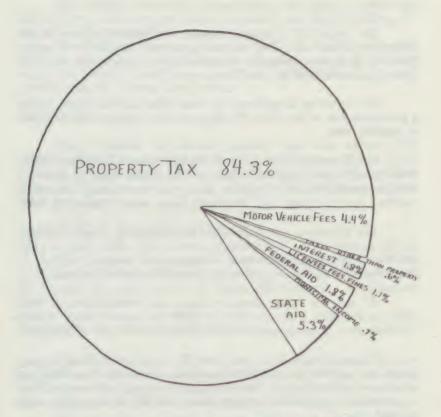
Veterans, and all persons over 65, who meet certain requirements, are eligible for specified exemptions, deductible from their tax assessment. Eligibility can be determined by inquiring at the Selectmen's office. Applications must be filed with the Selectmen by April 15 each year.

The tax rate is computed by the State Tax Commission after consultation with the Selectmen. A factor largely determining the tax rate is the amount of money appropriated at the Town Meeting, School Meeting and the Fire District Meetings.

#### BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Town of Derry operates, by choice, under the N.H. Municipal Budget Act. There are twelve members on the Budget Committee who are appointed by the Town Moderator. They serve for a term of three years, four new members being appointed each year. They serve without compensation.

# REVENUE



Based on the 1966 Town Report

Each year the Selectmen prepare and submit an itemized budget for the ensuing year to the Budget Committee. After study of the proposed budget, the Budget Committee may:

(a) approve an item (recommend an appropriation);

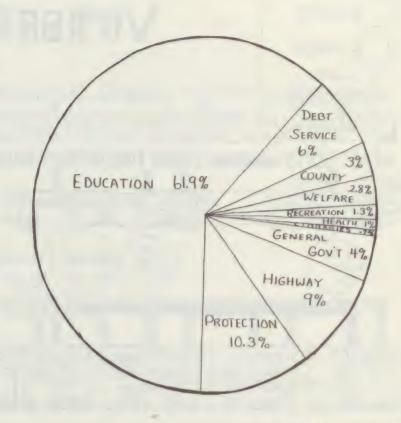
(b) put an item in the budget without their recommendation for an appropriation;

(c) deny approval.

No appropriation may be made by the voters for any purpose which is not included in the budget, although items may be submitted without Budget Committee approval.

The proposed budget must be posted with the Town Warrant and printed in the Town Report at least one week before Town Meeting.

# **EXPENDITURES**

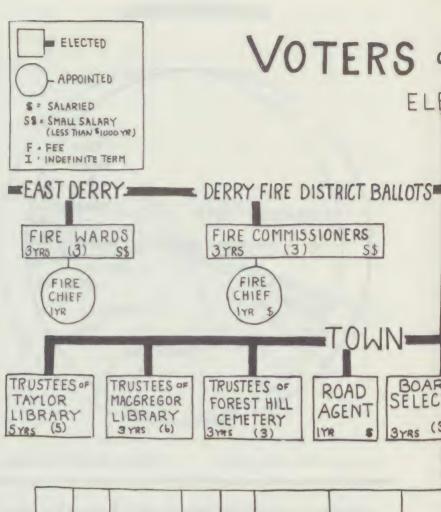


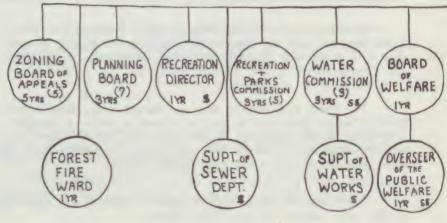
Based on the 1966 Town Report

The Budget is voted, by item, at Town Meeting. The annual Town Meeting may not approve appropriations to exceed by more than 10% of the total (less debt payment) recommended by the Budget Committee.

The Board of Selectmen may not expend money if an appropriation has not been made or may not expend in excess of appropriation except to pay judgments against the Town. The Selectmen may transfer unexpended balances from one account to another provided total spendings do not exceed total appropriations.

School and fire district budgets must be submitted and approved in the same manner as the Town Budget.





#### DERRY BIENNIAL GENERAL ELECTIONS REPRESENTATIVES TO 2 YRS GENERAL COURT (5) SUPERVISORS OF THE MODERATOR 2 YRS 5\$ SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT BUDGET OTHERS AS SPECIFIED COMMITTEE SCHOOL BOARD SCHOOL BY TOWN (12) MODERATOR (5)SS WARRAM 3 YRS SYRS 3.5 TREASURER CLERK DOF TOWN TAX TREASURER TRUSTEES AUDITORS TMEN OF THE CLERK COLLECTOR (3)TRUST FUNDS SS IYR IYR SS BOARD POLICE TOWN CHIEF -COUNSE HEALTH OFFICERS HEALTH BUILDING CIVIL PROPERTY SUPERVISOR DOG DEFENSE OFFICER ASSESSOR INSPECTOR OFFICER DIRECTOR TRAFFIC 5\$ IYR

# Town Services

#### COURTS

In New Hampshire justice is administered by District Courts locally, Superior and Probate Courts at the county level, and by the Supreme Court at the state level. All justices are appointed by the Governor and his Council and may hold office until age 70.

Since 1964 the towns of Derry, Londonderry, Chester and Sandown have been organized as the Derry District Court. Jurisdiction of this court includes civil and criminal cases with fines not exceeding \$1,000 nor imprisonment for over one year. Juvenile cases are

given special consideration.

Weekly court sessions are held in the Court Room of the Town Hall on Thursday morning. If circumstances demand, special sessions are held at other times. A presiding justice and a special justice are in charge of the court. The case load in the Derry District Court is about 800 a year. Most of these cases are motor vehicle violations.

The Superior Court has criminal jurisdiction over felonies and appeals from District Court decisions. It also has civil jurisdiction over certain actions not entered in the District Court. The Probate Court is concerned with wills, adoptions and investigations of welfare cases. The Supreme Court, which determines questions of law that are certified or appealed to it from any judicial level, is the highest appeal court in the State Court system.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

It is the duty of the Police Department to protect lives and property, to prevent crime, to enforce the criminal laws of the State of New Hampshire and the by-laws and traffic regulations of the Town of Derry, and to apprehend criminal violators.

The Chief of Police is appointed by and responsible to the Board of Selectmen. He must pass State written and oral examinations and a physical examination. His salary is \$6,500 yearly (1967).



Designed by Officer David Boyce

There are nine permanent officers and one Lieutenant under the direction of the Chief. All regulars are paid on a grade-step scale, the top rate being \$2.44 per hour (1967).

Thirty special officers and one policewoman supplement the Department. In 1967, \$1,000 was appropriated to pay special officers and overtime of regulars. The bulk of this is used at Halloween.

Police Department Headquarters is at 29 West Broadway in the Adams Memorial Building. The Department has two cruisers to cover 37 square miles and patrol 276 miles of roadway.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENTS

The Derry Fire District is autonomous and is governed by a Board of three Commissioners. One is elected each year for a three year term and receives an annual salary of \$500. The Commissioners are elected on Town Meeting day on a separate ballot.

The Fire Department budget must be submitted to the Budget Committee and approved by the voters at the annual Fire District Meeting which is held the last Monday in March. The budget may not be increased by more than 10% of the total approved by the Budget Committee, exclusive of bond issues.

The Fire Chief is appointed by the Fire Commissioners and is paid \$7,020 per year. He is on duty during the day and is on call at all times. There are seven other permanent firefighters, also appointed by the Commissioners. They are paid according to the Town wage schedule. There are twenty-nine call men who receive a salary of \$300 a year. All members of the Department must be Derry residents.

At present there is one Fire Station in the Derry Fire District on West Broadway. The Department has five pieces of equipment, plus a station wagon for the use of the Chief. All new apparatus is approved by the State and National Fire Underwriters.

The Department stresses fire prevention, supervising fire drills and distributing fire prevention brochures in the schools. There is a periodic inspection of all places of public assembly.

The East Derry Fire District is controlled by three Fire Wards, one of whom is appointed Chief. They each receive an annual salary of \$100. There are twenty-nine call men in the Department who are paid \$1.75 an hour. The Department has four pieces of firefighting equipment.

The State Forest Fire Warden's salary is shared by the State and the Town. He is in constant contact with the Warner Hill Lookout Tower.

A permit is required for any open air fire. Seasonal permits are available for incinerator burning. No burning is allowed between 9 am and 5 pm.

Fire Signals	Time	Blasts
No School	7 .am	3
Early release from school	11 .am	3

#### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all town roads, sidewalks, bridges and sculverts, and snow removal and sanding. There are 276 miles of streets under the jurisdiction of this Department.

The money for street and sidewalk construction and maintenance is recommended in the Town Budget and voted at Town Meeting. The state highways which run through Derry are financed and maintained by the State.

The Road Agent, who is head of the Department, is elected for a term of one year and receives a salary of \$6,500 (1967). He is directly responsible to the Selectmen. He supervises operation of the Department, and it is his duty to see that new roads and sidewalks meet town specifications.

There are seven regular men plus the Road Agent in the Department. Part-time men are employed primarily to supplement snow removal and sanding crews.

The Highway Department is also responsible for the operation of the Town Dump. Dumping is limited to Derry residents only, who must display a permit sticker on their car or truck.

#### CIVIL DEFENSE

The Civil Defense Director is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and receives no salary for his services. The Director is responsible for the organization, administration and operation of the local program, subject to the direction and control of the Board of Selectmen. Members of the unit volunteer both their time and equipment to this vital protective service. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening in the Office of Civil Defense, downstairs in the Post Office Building. The Town appropriated \$1,500 (1967) for equipment and operational expenses.

The local office of Civil Defense has developed an emergency program for the Town of Derry in case of disaster by enemy attack, flood, fire, earthquake, etc. An Emergency Operations Center provides for the operation of all Town Departments. The O.C.D. has a radio base station, an auxiliary power plant, air-raid warning and fire alarm system, and a fully equipped medical field hospital.

An essential part of the Civil Defense program is the courses instructed by trained personnel in Radiological Monitoring, Shelter Management, Medical Self-Help, and Personal and Family Survival.

The urbanized areas of Derry are now served by public water

The Derry Water Works is administered by a Board of Commissioners who are appointed by the Selectmen. There are four men in the Department including the Superintendent. The Superintendent's salary is \$6.700 per year (1967).

The Water Department is self-supporting from water meter charges and hook-up charges to users for the daily maintenance and the replacement of undersized mains. (Replacement of small 2-inch mains to 6 and 8-inch mains has been going on over the last five years, and at the present rate should be completed in approximately five more years.) In addition, the Town appropriates monies for capital improvements, new construction, and the extension of trunk mains. Individual developers are required to pay for extension of water mains from the nearest trunk main.

The source of the present Derry water supply is a series of shallow wells located on Fordway, with a total pumping capacity of approximately 500 gallons per minute. After extensive surveys, additional sources were located. A bond issue for \$160,000 was approved by the voters in 1967 to develop these wells which will provide an additional pumping capacity of approximately 250 gallons per minute.

Derry's water is checked daily for the amount of chlorine. The State checks for purity and safety every two weeks.

## SEWER DEPARTMENT

The municipal sewerage disposal system, covering most of the urbanized area of West Derry, was constructed in 1959 at the cost of one million dollars. The system, the first of its kind in the East, uses a series of four 5-acre lagoon ponds for waste treatment. All sewerage runs by gravity feed to the lagoon area.

The Department is managed by a Superintendent, appointed by the Selectmen, and employs three additional men. They are employed on a part-time basis in conjunction with the Water Department.

Maintenance of the sewerage system is paid for by sewer rental fees. Municipal bond issues for capital construction and improvements are voted at Town Meeting.

Advisory services to the Water and Sewer Departments are provided by the State Department of Health and the N.H. Water Pollution Control Commission. The Town also employs the engineering firm of Camp, Dresser and McKee of Boston on a consulting basis.

#### PLANNING AND ZONING

The Derry Planning Board is composed of seven members, one of whom is a Selectman, and a legal advisor. The members of the Board are appointed for five-year terms by the Selectmen and serve without remuneration.

The Board has the authority to regulate subdivision of land, street location and sizes, and has the responsibility for long-range planning. Zoning ordinances are drafted by the Planning Board and enforced by the Board of Selectmen.

Derry's present Zoning Ordinance, which was adopted in 1946 and revised in 1959, 1961 and 1967, regulates land uses and specifies the minimum size of building lots. Currently, there are four zone classifications: General Residence, Industrial, Commercial, and Mobile Home. The complete text of the Zoning Ordinance and a Zoning Map are available at the Selectmen's office.

In 1964-65 a special appropriation by the Town allowed the Board to obtain the services of a professional planning consultant firm to assist in drawing a long-range master plan for the Town, A special citizens' committee was selected to aid in this project, although there is no such permanent committee.

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of five men, appointed by the Selectmen for five year terms, who serve without pay.

The Board holds public hearings on appeals concerning zoning regulations and may grant variances.

## PUBLIC WELFARE

The Board of Public Welfare is comprised of three men, appointed by and usually consisting of the three Selectmen. One of the Board acts as the Overseer of the Public Welfare and receives a token salary of \$100.

The Board determines the need and validity of all requests for support and/or aid. Assistance is granted the aged, blind, dependent children, neglected children, permanently or totally disabled and the poor.

Any person unable to support himself shall be relieved and maintained by the Town. The County reimburses the Town for monies paid to any recipient who has lived in Derry less than five consecutive years.

In 1966, the Town welfare expenditures totaled \$52,466.53, including Old Age Assistance and Foster Home payments. The Department handled a case load of approximately 45 families.

Part of the local welfare cost is recovered by repayment from recipients. The Overseer may require a person who is receiving welfare payments to work at any available job within his capacity.



Alexander-Eastman Hospital

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

The three Selectmen serve as the Board of Health. They appoint a Health Officer who also serves as Building Inspector and Property Assessor. The Health Officer answers any health problem complaints, checks establishments serving food, and cooperates with doctors to quarantine certain communicable diseases. He works closely with the State Health Officers.

Derry is served by a State Health Nurse. The Visiting Nurse Association employs two full-time visiting nurses and a part-time therapist. They perform nursing procedures as directed by local physicians and follow-up work with crippled children, mentally retarded, new babies and new mothers. In 1967, the Town appropriated \$4,000 for the Visiting Nurse Association.

The Alexander-Eastman Hospital was founded in 1934. In June, 1964, the present hospital on Birch Street was dedicated. It was built with funds from private subscriptions, donation and Federal assistance. It is a 42-bed general hospital and employs 60 full or part-time nurses. There are 9 local physicians on the staff and four consultants in radiology and pathology.

The Blakey Convalescent Home is a private, general care nursing home with a 16-patient capacity. The Beaver Lake Lodge is a nursing home for Alcoholics. County and State Hospitals serving the area are:

Glencliff		Tuber	culosis
N.H. State Hospital (Concord)		Mental	Illness
Brentwood	Aged	and In	digent

Derry is ideally located to afford a wide range of year-round recreational activity. It is within short traveling distance of New Hampshire's seashore and the beautiful White Mountains. There are many lakes and ponds, golf courses and picnic areas dotting the vicinity. New Hampshire has 31 State Parks, 12 campgrounds and 17 scenic highways throughout the State. Historic landmarks, old homesteads and covered bridges are of particular interest. Local fairs and festivals emphasize New England tradition and hospitality.

The Derry Recreation and Parks Department is supervised by a Recreation Commission which consists of five members who are appointed by and responsible to the Selectmen. They serve a three year term without salary. The professional staff includes the Recreation Director and part-time secretarial and maintenance help. The Director

receives a salary of \$6,500 per year. (1967).

The Director has established a fine year-round program which provides activities for all age groups, including trips for Senior Citizens, instruction in swimming, tennis and skiing, slo-pitch softball, volleyball and basketball. In the summer there is playground instruction and arts and crafts for the children. Seasonal highlights include a Winter Carnival, Fishing Derby, Turkey Shoot and square dancing instruction.

Other amusement facilities available in the Derry area include Canobie Lake Park in Salem, Benson's Animal Farm in Hudson, the YMCA and the YWCA in Manchester and several bowling alleys,

riding stables and movie theaters.

There are many youth groups and special interest groups in Town. These include the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Antique Auto, Derry Sportsmen, Jr. Rifle Club, Derry Little League, Derry Jets and Pin-ups, Campers and the Spacetown Cadets.

Income from Trust Funds provide much of the funds to support the recreation program. Income from the Carr Trust must be used for the Alexander-Carr Playground, which covers 40 acres and includes a ski tow, toboggan run, picnic area; there are plans for a botanical pond. The MacGregor Trust income is specified for MacGregor-Pioneer Park where there is a bandstand and summer band concerts are held.

Traditionally, there are Memorial services on Memorial Day, including a parade. The Labor Day Festival includes a mammoth pa-

rade, dances, art exhibit, fireworks and athletic events.

#### PUBLIC PARKS IN DERRY:

MacGregor-Pioneer Park -East Broadway Alexander-Carr Playground -Pierce Avenue Hood Park -Rollins Street O'Hara Field -Railroad Avenue Veterans Field -Railroad Avenue



MacGregor Library

## LIBRARIES

Derry is fortunate in having available the facilities of two public libraries. The MacGregor Library is located on East Broadway near the center of town, and the Taylor Library is in East Derry.

The libraries are adequately stocked with current and historical fiction, non-fiction, reference materials, and magazines. They contain more than 30,000 volumes. During the year 1966, the total book circulation was approximately 50,000. In addition, books, films and recordings, and books for the blind are available from the State Library.

Both libraries were started with private bequests and are supported by trust funds, donations and appropriations. In 1967 the Town

appropriated more than \$12,000 for the public libraries.

The staff of MacGregor Library includes one full-time librarian and two assistants, and the Taylor Library employs one librarian.

Throughout the year attractive displays of art, photography and topical interest materials are exhibited.

#### Library Hours:

MacGrego:	r, Monday - Frid	lay 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
	Saturday	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Taylor,	Tuesday	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm; 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
	Thursday	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm; 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

# Education

The Derry public schools are in Co-operative School District No. 1 in a regional union, Supervisory Union No. 10. The Union consists of Auburn, Chester, Derry, Londonderry and Windham.

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

The SCHOOL BOARD is composed of 5 residents of the Town who are elected by the voters on a non-partisan basis for staggered 3-year terms and who serve for a salary of \$300 per year. They are responsible for educational policy, the school budget, adequate student accommodations, curricula, textbooks, the appointment of personnel, and the setting of salaries. The Board administers the school

property and must approve plans for new school buildings.

The SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS is nominated by Supervisory Union No. 10 at a joint Union Board meeting, after approval by each school district Board. He is employed by the State Board of Education. The Superintendent's salary (\$13,250 plus \$1,000 travel expenses for 1967-68) is determined by the Supervisory Union Board and the cost is shared by the State. He is given the responsibility of supervising the School Department in accordance with the educational policies established by the School Board. He recommends to the School Board the appointment of school personnel, and he directs and supervises all employees.

The ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS is employed in the same manner as the Superintendent, and he devotes his entire time to the performance of the duties delegated to him. In 1967-68 the Assistant Superintendent's salary will be \$10,500 plus

\$1,000 travel expenses.

All TEACHERS must meet certification requirements, which include a Bachelor's degree. The salary schedule (1967) goes from \$5,000 to \$7,000 with raises on a step basis according to years of experience. Higher salaries are paid to teachers with a Master's degree. There is no tenure system. The Derry teachers belong to a N.H. Teachers Retirement System. In the elementary grades, there are approximately 26 pupils per teacher. In the junior high school, which operates on a rotating class basis, each teacher averages 22 students.

#### COST OF EDUCATION

The school budget is compiled by the School Board in consultation with the Superintendent, and is adopted by the voters at the annual School Meeting. The 1966-1967 school costs were \$1,170,122.69, which was approximately 62% of the total Town budget. Per pupil cost in Derry in 1966-1967 was \$320 for elementary students and \$540 for junior high school students. The State provides some financial aid for schools based on Derry's total property assessments and the number of school children.



South Range School

# SCHOOL BUILDINGS

School	Grades	Date Built	No. of Classrms.	No. of * Students
Derry Village	1-2	1901	2	42
Floyd	1-4	1920	8	167
Grinnell	1-6	1951	14	401
South Range	1-6	1966	20	555
Hood Junior High	7-8	1952	13	314
St. Thomas Aquinas (parochial)	1-8	1954	9	304

<sup>\*</sup>The enrollment figures are as of December, 1966.

A new elementary school, currently under construction on South Main Street, will open in September, 1967. It will be known as the Derry Village School and will replace the small two-room Derry Village School now in operation. The new School will be of the same design and construction as the South Range School built in 1966.

#### CURRICULUM

In Derry the elementary grades are from 1 to 6; the Junior High School, grades 7-8, and Pinkerton Academy (an independent school), grades 9-12.

In addition to the 3 R's, music and art are taught in all Derry public schools, with a teacher in each subject who visits each school and supervises the instruction. The Derry School Band, composed of qualified students in Grades 5 through 8, participate in most of the local parades.

A physical education and athletic program is carried on throughout the school system with both a male and a female instructor.

There are central libraries in all the schools with a Library consultant to service all the schools. Educational TV (Channel 11) is viewed as part of the curriculum in the elementary grades.

In Hood Junior High School, French is offered to qualified students.

One fully-qualified remedial reading teacher, a part-time tutor and a Reading Consultant are employed to implement a remedial reading program in grades 1-8. The services of a full-time guidance counselor and a speech therapy program are also part of the Derry School system.

#### HEALTH

Derry has two full-time nurse-teachers who service both public and parochial pupils. They arrange medical and dental examinations, give vision and hearing tests and give emergency care for accidents and illness at school. Tuberculosis tests and Chest X-rays are also given at specified intervals during each child's school career.

#### OTHER SERVICES

Eight buses transport the public and parochial school children. The contract for transportation is awarded after competitive bidding. To be eligible for bus transportation, students in grades 1-3 must live more than one mile from school and students in grades 4-8 must live more than one and one-half mile from school.

A hot lunch program is available in the public schools. Some aid is received for this program from the Federal Lunch Program. Approximately 800 meals are served daily.

#### PINKERTON ACADEMY



Founded in 1814, Pinkerton Academy is an independent school administered by a Board of Trustees. The school has educated the high school students of Derry and surrounding towns since its first building was completed in 1815. Additions have been made in 1887 when a second building was added, in 1959 when the Library was built and in 1963 when the Shepard Auditorium and classrooms were constructed.

Pinkerton Academy has a staff of 40, which includes 35 teachers. Each teacher averages 25 students on a rotating class basis. Of the 883 students attending Pinkerton, 517 are from Derry for which the Town paid a yearly tuition of \$490 each in 1966-67.

The following curricula are offered at Pinkerton: Classical, Scientific, Commercial, Home Economics, Business Training, Agriculture and Industrial Arts. Latin, French and Spanish are the languages which are offered to the students in the Classical curriculum.

Over 50% of the Pinkerton graduates continued their education in post-secondary educational institutions in 1966.

Students who live one and one-half miles or more from school are eligible for bus transportation at a cost of \$1.25 per week. Those who live closer are offered this service on a space-available basis.

Pinkerton Tower

A variety of sports is available for both boys and girls. The foot-ball, baseball and basketball teams compete with other schools of similar size throughout the State.

Among the many extra-curricula activities offered at the Academy are the 100-piece marching band, the 80-piece concert band and

the Glee Clubs for both boys and girls.

# Voters Guide

## QUALIFICATIONS TO BECOME A VOTER:

United States citizenship;

• Twenty-one years of age or older;

• Six months residence in Derry (waived for in-state residents requesting written transfer);

• Registration with local Authorities.

#### REGISTRATION:

Where: With Supervisors of the Checklist, Adams Memorial Hall. When: At publicly posted times prior to any election, but at least

90 days before a primary.

Party Preference: May be stated upon registering and changed at advertised times at least 90 days before a primary. Once preference is stated, the registrant may not return to the status of "independent." No party registration is required to vote in any general election.

Checklist: Posted 20 days before elections in Adams Memorial Hall and two other locations. Changes in name, address, or party

must be registered with the supervisors.

#### ABSENTEE BALLOTING:

Where: Apply to Town Clerk.

When: Permitted for biennial elections only.

## HOW TO BECOME A CANDIDATE:

Candidates for public office must be qualified voters. To become a local candidate, a voter may either file for office by paying a fee or file for office by nomination by petition. The number of signatures required for a nomination by petition and the amount of the filing fee varies with the office sought. In either case the filing must be done with the Town Clerk at Adams Memorial Hall.

# HOW TO FILE AN ARTICLE IN THE WARRANT (TOWN MEETING):

A warrant article requires the signature of ten registered voters. The legality of wording should be checked. If the item requires monies to implement, an estimate should be submitted to the Budget Committee.

DERRY IS IN THE

First Congressional District Third Governor's Councilor District 19th State Senate District 3rd District, Rockingham County

#### WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE:

ELECTION	DATE	CANDIDATES ON
Town Meeting	Annual; second Tuesday in March	*Town officers and School Board and School Officers (see Local Government chart, pages 16-17)
School Meeting	Annual; date set by School Board, usually in March, Thursday before Town Meeting	
Derry Fire District Meeting	Annual; date set by Fire Commissioners, usually in March (at Derry Fire Sta- tion for Derry Fire District residents only)	*Fire Commissioner and Fire District Of- ficers
East Derry Fire District Meeting	Annual; date set by East Derry Fire Commissioners, usually in March (at East Derry Fire Station for re- sidents of East Derry Fire District only)	*Fire Commissioner and Fire District Of- ficers
Presidential Primary	Every four years; second Tuesday in March; next 1968	Presidential electors
Direct Primary	Every two years; second Tuesday in September; next 1968	Party nominations for local, county, and state candidates in General Election
General Election	Every two years; first Tuesday after first Mon- day in November; next 1968	Town Moderator; Supervisors of Check- list; all county offi- cials; all state offi- cials; U.S. Represen- tatives
	Every four years; same date in November; next 1968	Electors for U.S. President and Vice President
	Intervals of six years; same date in November;	

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates NON-PARTISAN election All balloting is at Veterans' Memorial Hall, except as noted.

next 1968, then 1972.

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